

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Rev. Daniel J. Bishop, Pastor

Reva Simpson, Principal - Good Shepherd Lutheran School - 347-2020

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 17, 2017

HOLY COMMUNION

TO OUR GUESTS AND MEMBERS: We receive the Lord's Supper, believing the Word of Jesus, that He gives into our mouths His true body and blood, miraculously united to the bread and wine, to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins, and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love one another, even as He forgives and loves us.

God's Word teaches us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great harm, and that this Holy Communion is a confession of the faith that is confessed in this church. Therefore any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or are members of a congregation not in the fellowship of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to commune, are asked to kindly speak with the pastor ahead of time. (*Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16-21; 11:17-34*)

The Confessional Service with Holy Communion

+ Prelude

+ Hymn of Invocation - #66 "Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes"

+ The Invocation – pg. 46ff (*stand*)

+ Versicles & Responses

+ INTROIT *Ps. 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: Ps. 85:7*

*Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.*

**Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**

*Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.*

**Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.**

*Righteousness will go before him
and make his foot-steps a way.*

**Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.**

+ The Confessional Address or Exhortation – pg. 47

+ The Corporate Confession of Sins and Absolution – pg. 47-48

+ The Collect for the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

- *See enclosed insert for the Readings*

+ The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

+ The Holy Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

+ The Nicene Creed – pg. 22

+ Hymn - #272

“When All the World was Cursed”

+ Sermon – “Witness about the Light”

John 1:6-8

- I. John bore witness about the Light.
- II. Many other believers bore witness about the Light, and so can we.
- III. The Light is our truth and righteousness and life.

+ The Offertory – pg. 22 (*stand*)

+ The Offerings

+ Sanctuary Choir (8:00 a.m.)

“In Silence We Wait”

+ The Prayer of the Church

+ The Preface ~ The Agnus Dei – pg. 24-28

+ Distribution Hymns

#63 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

#60 “Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding”

#498 “Rise, Thou Light of Gentile Nations”

+ The Nunc Dimittis – pg. 29

+ The Thanksgiving – pg. 30

+ Post-Communion Collect – pg. 30

+ The Salutation & The Benedicamus – pg. 31

+ The Benediction – pg. 31

+ Closing Hymn - #498, v. 1, 3, 4, 6 (7:00 p.m.)
“Rise, Thou Light of Gentile Nations”

+ SOLI DEO GLORIA +

DAILY READINGS

December 17: Is. 33:1–24; Rev. 5:1–14; **18:** Is. 34:1–2, 8–35:10; Rev. 6:1–17; **19:** Is. 40:1–17; Rev. 7:1–17; **20:** Is. 40:18–41:10; Rev. 8:1–13; **21:** Is. 42:1–25; Rev. 9:1–12; **22:** Is. 43:1–24; Rev. 9:13–10:11; **23:** Is. 43:25–44:20; Rev. 11:1–19.

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